

OBSERVATIONS ON THE GARDEN TIGER: *ARCTIA CAJA* L. —

In 1975, I had some wild larvae of this moth that were parasitised by a small ichneumon. Curiously, one of these larvae, after producing four or five parasitic maggots, pupated successfully and in due course a perfect moth emerged. Did the ichneumon fail for some reason to deposit its quota of eggs into the host larva, owing perhaps to having been disturbed while ovipositing? Are there other similar cases on record of survival by a parasitised larva?

A further observation concerns a female *A. caja* that I reared which laid the huge number of 1,584 eggs. These were laid in eleven batches in the following order: 306, 337, 141, 233, 200, 63, 95, 112, 63, 23 and 11. One wonders if this is a record number of eggs for this species to deposit. G. BAPTISTE, 26 Comb Paddock, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 4UG.

SPRING APPEARANCE OF *MACROGLOSSUM STELLATARUM* L.

— M. Parsons wonders whether an April example of this Hawkmoth may not have hibernated (Vol. 96: 96). Further south in its range it enters buildings in the autumn in order to hibernate, but "this hibernation is a restless phase, for on sunny days the moth often tries to leave the house and may be seen trapped on windows" (quote from my *Lepidoptera Iraq*, 1957:p.47). If such behaviour has been noted in East Sussex it would indicate an affirmative answer to Mr. Parsons' question. — E. P. WILTSHIRE, Wychwood, High Road, Cookham, Berks.

BARRETT'S MARBLED CORONET: *HADENA LUTEAGO BARRETTII* DOUBL. IN CARDIGANSHIRE. — Two males of this species were taken in the Rothamsted Insect Survey light traps at Aberporth and Tregaron during June and July of 1983. The first, on 25th June, at Tregaron (Site number 331, O.S. grid ref. SN 687 618) was probably most surprising as this site is some 12 miles inland and well north of the species' distribution as shown in Vol. 9 of "The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland" (Heath, J. & Emmet, A. M. 1979). The second specimen was caught in our trap at Aberporth (Site number 440) on 5th July and again is further north than the species has been noted previously. Both specimens were quite badly worn but their identities were confirmed by my examination of their genitalia.

Our thanks are extended to Mr. G. Williams and Commdr. E. C. Verge for their co-operation in running the trap at Aberporth and Mr. I. J. L. Tillotson who operates the trap at Tregaron and identifies all but the most awkward specimens from both sites. — A. M. RILEY, Rothamsted Insect Survey, Entomology Department, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

AN UNUSUAL PUPATION SITE FOR *DIURNEA FAGELLA* D. & S. (LEP.: OECOPHORIDAE). — While walking in Swanton Novers N.N.R. (E. Norfolk, TG 011316) on 16 April 1984, I collected a loosely spun cocoon attached to the upper surface of a half-eaten